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Date: 9/22/2022 10:32:01 AM
Subject: Bradford Island

Ann and Jeff,

I want to let you know that yesterday, Casey Sixkiller, the Regional Administrator for EPA Region 10, sent the message copied below to Colonel Michael D. Helton and Frances E. Coffey of USACE. Also, EPA Region 10 has initiated an effort to enlist a facilitator for the purpose of discussing Bradford Island matters between USACE, EPA, WA and OR. Those matters do not include the FFA negotiations being conducted among legal counsel.

Respectfully,

Richard

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Dear Colonel Helton and Ms. Coffey,

I am writing to suggest we meet to discuss the Bradford Island Superfund site and our efforts to enter into a Federal Facilities Agreement. I know that EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers have a long history of partnership protecting human health and the environment in Region 10. After I was appointed as EPA R10 Administrator in May, I learned from my staff about our formal joint government-to-government consultation with the Yakama Nation, that negotiations were starting on the Federal Facilities Agreement, and our technical staff were ready to begin working on the Bradford Island Superfund site.

I recently asked my team about our progress on the FFA and I found that negotiations are moving slowly, our technical staff have not met to plan out the work ahead, and that there are serious concerns related to providing opportunities for engagement and transparency to tribal governments. I understand that we made some firm commitments to the Yakama Nation regarding completing negotiations of the Federal Facilities Agreement within one year and committing to clear and frequent communication and coordination related to the cleanup work at the site.

As you know, this site is important to many individuals, organizations, and tribes in Oregon and Washington and so attention at the highest levels is needed to ensure that work and milestones are delivered on-time and the cleanup effort moves forward. I would like to make sure that we can fulfill our commitments and so I propose that we meet to discuss the status of our efforts and assess the actions needed to keep moving forward in order to meet important milestones.

Calvin Terada, Director, EPA R10 Superfund and Emergency Management Division, is available to work with you to plan and finalize the logistics for our meeting.

Thank you for your leadership to make sure that we have a successful cleanup effort.

Casey

Casey Sixkiller

Regional Administrator

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